

WELCOME

Welcome to all as we gather together to worship in different places but at the same time.

During this strange time we will be joining with others with songs, prayers, readings from the scriptures and a message of hope and encouragement.

Irrespective of whether you are alone or with others I encourage all of you to remember- in God we are never alone.

CALL TO WORSHIP

I wait for the LORD,
my soul waits, and in his word I hope;

my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning

So let us come and worship God.

SONG **TiS 156 Morning has broken**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Rifby1tVE8> Video with words- Cat Stevens

Morning has broken
like the first morning;
blackbird has spoken
like the first bird.
Praise for the singing,
praise for the morning,
praise for them, springing
fresh from the word.

Sweet the rain's new fall
sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall
on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness
of the wet garden,
sprung from completeness
where his feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight;
mine is the morning
born of the one light
Eden saw play.
Praise with elation,

praise every morning,
God's recreation
of the new day.

Words Eleanor Farjeon/ Music Gaelic melody CCLI. No. 237097

PRAYER

O God, you are near as the very air we breathe and the light around us, yet our thought's farthest reach falls short of you.

We yearn to reach you.

We seek the light and warmth of your presence, for we are lost without you.

Though we say you are near, we often feel lonely and alone.

O let our desire be so strong that it will tear the veil that keeps you from our sight! Let your light penetrate our darkness, to reveal to us the glory and joy of your eternal presence.

As the fish gives themselves to the sea,

As birds give themselves to the air,
as all life gives itself to life,

so may we give ourselves to you, O God. Amen

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

In this strange time we come before God not knowing what lies ahead but confident that God is with us. God is love, and where love is, there is God. Hear then God's words through Jesus:

Your sins are forgiven

Thanks be to God!

STORY

READING

Ezekiel 37: 1- 14

37 The hand of the LORD was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. ³ He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?"

I said, "Sovereign LORD, you alone know."

⁴ Then he said to me, “Prophecy to these bones and say to them, ‘Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! ⁵ This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath^a enter you, and you will come to life. ⁶ I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.”

⁷ So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. ⁸ I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.

⁹ Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to it, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.’” ¹⁰ So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.

¹¹ Then he said to me: “Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.’” ¹² Therefore prophecy and say to them: ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: My people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ Then you, my people, will know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. ¹⁴ I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD.’”

This is the word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God

SONG TiS 242 Lord of the Dance

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WV8fy2s8_C8 Music only

1. I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun;
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth,
at Bethlehem I had my birth:

Refrain

*Dance then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the dance, said he;
and I'll lead you all wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance said he*

2. I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
but they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me.
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John -

they came with me and the dance went on:

Refrain

3. I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame:
the holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high,
and they left me there on a cross to die:

Refrain

4. I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone:
but I am the dance and I still go on:

Refrain

5. They cut me down and I leap up high,
I am the life that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you as you live in me:
I am the Lord of the dance, said he:

Refrain

*Dance then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the dance, said he;
and I'll lead you all wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance said he*

Words and music Sydney Carter, Music adapted from Quaker tune C.C.L.I. No. 237097

John 11: 1- 45

11 Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² (This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) ³ So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick."

⁴ When he heard this, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it." ⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶ So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days, ⁷ and then he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."

⁸ "But Rabbi," they said, "a short while ago the Jews there tried to stone you, and yet you are going back?"

⁹ Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Anyone who walks in the daytime will not stumble, for they see by this world’s light. ¹⁰ It is when a person walks at night that they stumble, for they have no light.”

¹¹ After he had said this, he went on to tell them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up.”

¹² His disciples replied, “Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better.” ¹³ Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep.

¹⁴ So then he told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead, ¹⁵ and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.”

¹⁶ Then Thomas (also known as Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

¹⁷ On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.

¹⁸ Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁹ and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

²¹ “Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died.

²² But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.”

²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”

²⁴ Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.”

²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

²⁷ “Yes, Lord,” she replied, “I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.”

MOVIE CLIP Music Dry Bones (Come Alive) Lauren Deigel

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0P4YdXz3LAI&list=PLh2M-GavOT8Uy1pDrwtk9OYiiNdwDQKAz>

SERMON *Can you see what I see?*

SONG TiS 585 I heard the voice of Jesus say

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cSSiEixBt8E> Video with lyrics

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Come unto me and rest;

lay down, O weary one, lay down
your head upon my breast.'
I came to Jesus as I was,
weary and worn and sad;
I found in him a resting-place,
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Behold, I freely give
the living water; thirsty one,
stoop down and drink and live.'
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise,
and all your dray be bright.'
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk
till traveling days are done.

Words Horatius Bonar/Music English and Irish traditional melody. C.C.L.I. No. 237097

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

When my days become over-busy, and I get hassled by too many worries:
Sweet Lord, give me your peace.

When my vision begins to fade and weariness infiltrates the soul:
Strong Lord give me your peace.

When disgusted by my own faithlessness, I toss on my bed through the night:
Faithful Lord, give me your peace.

When worship becomes routine, and prayer has the taste of sawdust:
Renewing Lord, give me your peace.

When my hair turns grey above a wrinkled face, and my energy is spent before the day is done:

Unfailing Lord, give me your peace.

When I'm retired from work with joys, and wonder what it means to grow older:

Nurturing Lord, give me your peace.

When my mind glimpses strange sights, and my heart ceases to beat:

Deathless Lord, give me your peace.

...And now, let us join with the Christians of all nations in the prayer Jesus taught his disciples as we say

***Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins,
As we forgive those who sin against us.***

***And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
Forever and ever, Amen.***

OFFERING

During this time when we cannot meet it is still good to put away your offering so that the work of the church may continue. Money is used for assisting people in all sorts of ways and to part of our role in having a minister. Please use the envelopes provided.

Loving God, even in this strange time of insecurity you have blessed us and continue to bless us. Please accept these gifts we bring that they might help and bless others as you have helped and blessed us. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

If you are in a household with other people- please share a sign of peace with them. If you are alone, please know we are wishing and praying for you to have God's peace.

May the peace of the Lord be with you

And also with you

SONG TiS 409 O breath of life

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z1QZw7q1Xyc> Music and words

O breath of life come sweeping through us,
revive your church with life and power;
O breath of life, come cleanse, renew us,
and fit your church to meet this hour.

O wind of God, come bend us, break us,
till humbly we confess our need;
then in your tenderness remake us,
revive, restore: for this we plead.

O breath of love, come breathe within us,
renewing thought and will and heart;
come, love of Christ, afresh to win us,
revive your church in every part.

Revive us, Lord! is zeal abating
while harvest fields are vast and white?
Revive us, Lord, the world is waiting,
equip your church to spread the light.

Words Elizabeth Ann Porter Head/ Music Mary Jane Hammond C.C.L.I. No. 237097

BENEDICTION

May God bless you as you rest,
May God bless you as you eat and drink,
May God bless you whether you are out or at home
And in all things may God bless you and keep you safe.